one commanded by General Kleist. In this state of things, whatever prejudices may prevail at your headquarters, my army outnumbers that of Your Majesty, in foot, in horse, and in guns, and if the acceptance of this fact should be a prerequisite for Your Majesty's decision, I have no doubt but that I can demonstrate it to the satisfaction of men of such sound judgment as Prince Schwar-zenberg, Count Bubna, or Prince Metternich. I think it my duty to vrrite to Your Majesty because this struggle between a French army and an army that is principally Austrian appears contrary to the interests of both countries. Should Fortune deceive my hopes, the position of Your Majesty would be still more difficult.

I therefore propose to Your Majesty that we should sign a peace immediately, on the basis laid down by Your Majesty at Frankfort, which I and the French nation have accepted as our ultimatum. I say more, these bases alone can maintain the European equilibrium. Should Your Majesty persist in subordinating (Austrian) interests to those of England and to the rancour of Russia, and be unwilling to lay down arms on any terms but the disastrous ones proposed at the Congress, the genius of France and of Providence will be for us.

24th, Bourg des Noes:

(To Montalivet.) I have your letter. If the French people were as contemptible as you imagine, I would blush with shame. You and the Minister of Police know no more of France than I do of China. You discourage the King by evoking exaggerated pictures which his character is only too prone to accept.